



Montgomery County Council

From the Office of Councilmember Nancy Dacek

For Immediate Release

December 14, 2001

Contact: Peggy Erickson 240-777-7973

**N
E
W
S

R
E
L
E
A
S
E**

DACEK HAILS PROTECTION OF 800 ACRES IN BOYDS AS GREEN SPACE

Councilmember Nancy Dacek today called the purchase by the state of Maryland of 800 acres in Boyds in Montgomery County "historic" and "one more step toward preserving green space in the County for our children and grandchildren."

The purchase, the largest single land preservation in County history, will link more than 5,000 acres of protected land and is the center of a green corridor stretching from the Patuxent River to the Potomac River. The land is primarily forested, contains significant mineral resources in addition to wetlands, and includes agriculture.

"This historic acquisition is the result of a unique public-private partnership," said Councilmember Dacek, who represents the area and has been a leading champion of the County's crown-jewel Agricultural Preserve.

"Landowner Michael Rubin deserves a lot of credit for reaching out to buy this land, as well as an additional 900 acres, to protect both tracts from development. The non-profit Trust for Public Land helped to negotiate the deal with the state. And, in the end, the land will be placed under the stewardship of our Maryland-National Capital Park and Planning Commission.

"This has been a long-awaited event for the Boyds community and the Boyds Civic Association also deserves credit.

"If we hadn't been able to take advantage of this opportunity, the land would have been swallowed up for sure by housing development from neighboring Germantown. Now we can preserve it for our children and grandchildren."

###